

THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Hiroshi Takaku et al. Attorney Docket No.: 2352.008
Serial No.: 10/549,601 Examiner: Kimberly CHONG
Filed: August 8, 2006 Group Art Unit: 1635
Title: NOVEL ANTISENSE OLIGONUCLEOTIDE AND ANTI-HIV AGENT

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION

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Date of Signature: August 24, 2007

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.142

Dear Sir:

This is in response to the Office Action mailed July 26, 2007, in connection with the above-identified U.S. patent application. The one-month period for response expires on August 26, 2007. Accordingly, this response is timely filed.

Claims 1-7 and 9-17 were presented at the time of filing and are currently pending in the application. The action of July 26, 2007 requires election under 35 U.S.C. § 121 and 372 between two groups of claims:

Group I (claims 1-7 and 9-15) drawn to an oligonucleotide consisting of a nucleotide sequence complementary to a nucleotide sequence consisting of at least 15 successive nucleotides in the nucleotide sequence consisting of nucleotides 6-44 of SEQ ID NO.1; and

Group II (claim 16-17) drawn to a method for treating or preventing HIV comprising administering to a subject the oligonucleotide of claim 1 or 2.

Applicants hereby elect the claims of Group I (claims 1-7 and 9-15). The election is made without traverse and without prejudice to Applicants' rights to pursue the subject matter of the non-elected claim in an additional application.

The Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' Attorney at the telephone number given below if any further questions arise in connection with this Application.

Respectfully submitted,



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Dated: August 24, 2007

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